

2:55 pm, May 18, 2018

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

**U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
LONG ISLAND OFFICE**

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ASHCAN STUDIO OF ART, INC.,

Plaintiff,

-against-

**MEMORANDUM OF
DECISION & ORDER**
2:18-cv-02079 (ADS) (ARL)

JING DING *also known as* Jane Ding,
OOGIE ART LONG ISLAND INC. *doing
business as* Art Portfolio Center *also known as*
Jane Ding Art School

Defendants.

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APPEARANCES:

Lewis & Lin, LLC

Attorneys for the Plaintiff

45 Main Street

Suite 608

Brooklyn, NY 11201

By: David Dong Ann Lin, Esq.,
Justin Ryann Mercer, Esq., Of Counsel

Jing Ding

Pro se Defendant

NO APPEARANCES:

Oogie Art Long Island Inc.

Defendant

SPATT, District Judge:

On May 17, 2018, the pro se Defendant Jing Ding (“Ding”) attempted to file an answer on behalf of the corporate Defendant Oogie Art Long Island Inc. (“Oogie”).

The Court cannot accept Ding’s answer on behalf of Oogie. A corporate defendant may only be represented by counsel, and therefore only counsel may speak on a corporate defendant’s

behalf. *See Rowland v. California Men's Colony*, 506 U.S. 194, 201–02, 113 S. Ct. 716, 721, 121 L. Ed. 656 (1993) (“It has been the law for the better part of two centuries . . . that a corporation may appear in the federal courts only through licensed counsel (internal citations omitted)); *Jones v. Niagara Frontier Transp. Auth.*, 722 F.2d 20, 22 (2d Cir. 1983) (“Since, of necessity, a natural person must represent the corporation in court, we have insisted that that person be an attorney licensed to practice law before our courts.” (internal citations omitted)).

Therefore, the corporate Defendant's answer is not being docketed as an answer.

Additionally, the Court notes that if Ding is unable to secure counsel for Oogie, the corporate defendant will be held in default, and judgment may be entered against it.

The Clerk of the Court is respectfully directed to mail a copy of this Order to the pro se Defendant.

It is **SO ORDERED**:

Dated: Central Islip, New York

May 18, 2018

/s/ Arthur D. Spatt

ARTHUR D. SPATT

United States District Judge